

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5 and 9 as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece comprising

a punch integrated into any one of a moving part of a press working machine and a supporting part of the press working machine; and

a die integrated with the other one of the moving part and the supporting part, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planes to be fitted with datum planes of a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die with respect to each other and at least one plane of the punch and at least one plane of the die are simultaneously fitted with the same datum plane of the fitting jig.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The punching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the hole has a non-circular cross section.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The punching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the punch and the die are rotatable independent of the moving part and the supporting part about an axis parallel to the direction for the punching, and are not possible to rotate relative to each other by touching the planes for fitting with the datum planes of the fitting jig.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The punching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said planes for fitting lie parallel to the direction for punching and are vertical relative to each other.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The punching unit for a punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work since, comprising

a punch;
a die; and

a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die relative to each other, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of faces for fitting and the fitting jig has datum planes to be fitted with the planes for fitting of the punch and the die planes to be fitted with datum planes of the fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die with respect to each other and at least one plane of the punch and at least one plane of the die are simultaneously fitted with the same datum plane of the fitting jig.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) A punching unit according to claim 5 wherein said punch and the die are rotatable independent of the punching machine, about an axis parallel to the direction for punching and can rotate simultaneously in a state where the datum planes of the fitting jig are attached with each of the planes for fitting of the punch and the die.

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece comprising by means of:

a punch integrated into any one of a moving part of a press working machine and a supporting part of the press working machine;

a die integrated with the other one of the moving part and the supporting part, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planes to be fitted with datum planes of a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die with respect to each other and at least one plane of the punch and at least one plane of the die are simultaneously fitted with the same datum plane of the fitting jig;

wherein the hole has a non-circular cross section; and wherein the punch and the die are rotatable independent can rotate, independently of the moving part and the supporting part, about an axis parallel to the direction for the punching, and are not possible

to rotate relative to each other by touching the planes for fitting with the datum planes of the fitting jig.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece comprising

a punch integrated into any one of a moving part of a press working machine and a supporting part of the press working machine; and

a die integrated with the other one of the moving part and the supporting part, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planes to be fitted with datum planes of a fitting jig,

wherein the punch and the die are rotatable independent of the moving part and the supporting part about an axis parallel to the direction for the punching, and are not possible to rotate relative to each other by touching the planes for fitting with the datum planes of the fitting jig, and

wherein said fitting jig has a U-shaped cross section having a pair of arms on one inner surface of which one of the datum planes is arranged and on the other one inner surface of which the other one of the datum planes is arranged in order to hold the punch and the die between said pair of arms and also order to fit the plane for fitting of the punch and the die with the datum planes of the fitting jig while rotating about the axis.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The punching unit for a punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work since, comprising

a punch;

a die; and

a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die relative to each other, wherein each of the punch and the die has plurality of faces for fitting and the fitting jig has datum planes to be fitted with the planes for fitting of the punch and the die,

wherein said punch and the die are rotatable independent of the punching machine, about an axis parallel to the direction for punching and can rotate simultaneously in a state where the datum planes of the fitting jig are attached with each of the planes for fitting of the punch and the die, and

wherein said fitting jig has a U-shaped cross section having a pair of arms on one inner surface of which one of the datum planes is arranged and on the other one inner surface of which the other one of the datum planes is arranged in order to hold the punch and the die between said pair of arms and also order to fit the plane for fitting of the punch and the die with the datum planes of the fitting jig while rotating about the axis.